

**MINUTES OF THE  
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 210 East Senate Building, State Capitol Complex

January 30, 2014

**Members Present:** Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart, Co-Chair  
Rep. Keith Grover, Co-Chair  
Rep. Jon E. Stanard, House Vice Chair  
Sen. J. Stuart Adams  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Sen. Aaron Osmond  
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson  
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson  
Sen. John L. Valentine  
Rep. Jack R. Draxler  
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards  
Rep. Don I. Ipson  
Rep. Dana L. Layton  
Rep. Kay L. McIff  
Rep. Marie H. Poulson  
Rep. Dean Sanpei  
Rep. Robert M. Spendlove  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

**Staff Present:** Mr. Spencer Pratt, Fiscal Manager  
Ms. Angela Oh, Economist/Statistician  
Ms. Lorna Wells, Secretary

**Note:** A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Call to Order**

Co-Chair Grover called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**2. UCAT Base Budget**

Ms. Oh explained the mission of the Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT). She explained how to find meeting materials online including the trend analyses for each campus and line item. <http://le.utah.gov/asp/interim/Commit.asp?Year=2014&Com=APPHEd>

She stated that S.B. 1 is the base budget bill for Higher Education and that the UCAT line items are from Item 51-59. <http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00000149.pdf>

**3. UCAT Performance Measures**

**a. UCAT Membership Hours** Ms. Oh discussed the Issue Brief regarding membership hours since FY 2003. She explained that the hours are separated by adult students and high school students. She indicated that approximately 900 membership hours would be equivalent to one full-time student at a USHE institution. Ms. Oh explained that these membership hours are

broken out by individual campus and show the changes from FY 2012 to FY 2013. She reported that in FY 2013 all campuses had more adult students than high school students. She reminded committee members that the Tooele campus has only been in existence for one year.

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00000900.pdf>

Sen. Stevenson asked what were the major reasons for the decrease in high school students enrolling in ATCs. He also asked if some of these classes are being offered in the high school in the CTE area. Ms. Oh answered that the major reasons for the decreases are changes in high school graduation requirements, residual effects when public education was at risk to lose Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) funding (which has since changed), and that high school students are unaware of UCAT offerings. Ms. Oh indicated that there is some duplication, but UCAT is working with public education to reduce the duplication.

Co-Chair Urquhart stated that Sen. Stevenson is asking very important questions. He explained that a few years ago the WPU was following the students as they went to the ATCs. This meant that public education was losing funding when they sent students to the ATCs. Public education spent money developing CTE programs to retain the WPU. He questioned where the CTE funds should flow and raised concerns and questions for policy makers. He stated that in some areas there is collaboration and others there is not.

**b. UCAT Student Headcount** Ms. Oh discussed the increase in student headcount FY 2012 to FY 2013. She mentioned that in FY 2013 adult students accounted for 76.6 percent of the total and high school students were 23.4 percent. She discussed student headcount at each campus. Co-Chair Urquhart said that the high school headcount is headed in the wrong direction, which should be a concern to committee members. He stated that the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) has been looking into high school graduation requirements for several years, but haven't changed the requirements. Legislation may be presented next year if there is still no solution. <http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00000907.pdf>

**c. UCAT Certificates Awarded** Ms. Oh explained that this Issue Brief shows certificates awarded by program at each campus. She reported that \$5 million was appropriated during the 2013 General Legislative Session to increase campus capacity in conjunction with the Governor's 2020 goal of having 66 percent of Utahns with a degree or certificate. She stated that every campus was able to increase the number of certificates, with the exception of Tooele. She explained that at Tooele, the certified nursing program and medical assisting program are cohort based; so because of the timing when students enroll, they had not completed at the end of FY 2013. She said that there was a coding error on the published report for Dixie ATC. This correction has been made. <http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00000910.pdf>

**d. UCAT Completion, Placement, and Licensure (CPL)** Ms. Oh explained that this Issue Brief shows completion, placement and licensure rates for UCAT as a whole, as well as each campus. Each campus is accredited separately through the Council on Occupational Education (COE). She discussed the current accreditation standards. She reported that every campus was

able to exceed the minimum COE standards in completion, placement, and licensure. She mentioned that there were some programs that were under review and the data shows programs that were under review in the past three years and what the campus did to make sure that the minimum standard was met. <http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00000913.pdf>

**e. UCAT/SLCC Custom Fit** Ms. Oh explained the Custom Fit program which is tailored to meet specific needs of employers. She reported that in FY 2013, the appropriation was \$2.7 million. She stated that at SLCC the Custom Fit program is under the School of Applied Technology. Most of the trainings were between 0 and 25 hours. The data shows the number of trainees at UCAT and SLCC. Ms. Oh stated that in most cases the training costs are split 50 percent between UCAT and the company. <http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001209.pdf>

#### **4. UCAT Campus Presentations**

**a. UCAT Administration** Rob Brems, President, UCAT. Pres. Brems introduced Tom Bingham, Chair of the UCAT Board of Trustees. Mr. Bingham expressed appreciation to the committee for their work, concern, and support for UCAT. UCAT takes seriously the accountability that is entrusted to them. He is excited about what has taken place at the new Tooele campus, which came about because of collaboration with secondary education, Utah State University, Tooele City and Tooele County. Mr. Bingham explained why the mission statement is so important to the Board of Trustees and the success of the advisory committees.

Pres. Brems provided a copy of the *UCAT Annual Report* to committee members. He stated that the headcount is 59 percent male and 41 percent female but the completion rate is higher with female students than male students. He discussed what UCAT is doing to meet the 2020 goal. He reported that to meet this goal, UCAT hopes to award 117,075 certificates. Pres. Brems discussed the great return on investment from these certificates. He discussed “Certificates: A Gateway to Gainful Employment and College Degrees.” <http://ucat.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Annual-Report-13-web.pdf>

Sen. Osmond said that this is a fantastic way to look at the return on investment perspective. He stated that this information should be shared with the youth. He asked if the information about earning potential gets discussed with high school students. Pres. Brems stated that they continue to struggle to get the message out to high school students and their parents regarding the advantages of UCAT. The UCAT campuses do work with high schools and counselors. They could do more outreach should funding for this be made available.

Sen. Osmond asked if information could be gathered about how much it would cost a student to get the same kind of training in the commercial sector. He asked if information is given to the public about the significant value to the students. Pres. Brems answered that they do consider this. He emphasized that the best pathway for this is to obtain the certificates while in high school, because there is no fee to high school students for this training. If you factor this in to what a certificate could cost in the private sector, the savings are exponential.

Sen. Osmond stated that if parents knew the commercial value of these certificates right out of high school there would be a tremendous increase in enrollment. He asked how this information could better be disseminated to parents.

Sen. Jones commented how important it is to get parents to understand that not all students are going to get scholarships and not all should be going to a four-year school. She asked how to change the mindset and perception that attending a UCAT campus and receiving a certificate is inferior to a 4-year degree. She emphasized that many students that would do better in an applied technology career. She asked if more data regarding the wages and benefits of UCAT certificates could be given to parents.

Pres. Brems said that changing this mindset and perception has been a constant challenge, but he felt that they have made progress. He reported that the recent collaboration with the USHE institutions and stackable credentials have definitely helped.

Co-Chair Urquhart thanked Pres. Brems for his leadership in working on aligning programs with industry, and in avoiding duplication of expenditures with public education. He asked if high school students are not attending UCAT campuses if some of the programs should be moved back to the high schools. He asked if UCAT is able to compete with public education. Pres. Brems indicated that he would prefer to foster a more positive relationship. He would prefer to work with high schools and eliminate duplication.

Pres. Brems indicated that he was asked to talk about the cost per certificate. He said one of the reasons that this was a challenging process is that the UCAT system is made up of four different populations. There are certificate seeking individuals; high school students; occupational upgrades; other post-secondary adults (such as lifelong learners, senior citizens, etc.). He explained that the accrediting body is only dealing with certificate gaining students. Pres. Brems discussed the specific costs per certificate for each of the campuses. He mentioned that because he was having to move through the presentation so quickly, he would make it available to committee members. <http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00002592.pdf>

Sen. Valentine stated that the data shows a vivid illustration that each region has unique needs.

Co-Chair Grover asked if students with one-year certificates could further increase earnings more with industry exams or with occupational upgrades. Pres. Brems stated that it depends on the program and advisory committees for these programs would know the answer. He mentioned that employers are waiting for students to emerge from the program. Pres. Brems answered that it would probably be a combination of the two; for example, get a certificate, go to work and then come back to upgrade your skills. Co-Chair Grover asked if the campus presidents determine where the focus would be. Pres. Brems answered that the employer advisory committees guide these decisions.

Rep. Stanard asked if one reason that costs of providing for high school students were significantly less is that they were spending less time on campus. He also asked if they are enrolled in the same programs as other adult students working on a certificate. Pres. Brems answered that the high school students come to the ATC as part of their daily schedule. They are intermingled with the adult students which is a great mix of youth and wisdom. Students who do not finish the certificate before they graduate will then often come full-time as adults and finish. The costs of providing training for these students is reduced because they are only on campus for a short time.

Sen. Stephenson asked why there was such a wide variety at the different campuses between certificate seekers, occupational upgrades, and high school students. Pres. Brems answered that the demands are based on the employer needs in the region. He indicated that the graphs are shown in percentages not the actual number of students. Sen. Stephenson asked why the percentages of high school students vary so much at the different ATCs. He asked if high school counselors' attitudes towards ATCs could make a difference. Pres. Brems answered that newest campuses have fewer high school students because it does take time to develop the linkages between the school districts and the ATCs. He stated that the high school counselors' attitudes towards ATCs could make a difference. Sen. Stephenson asked if the ATCs have had to place limits on the number of high school students they can accept. This would be a disincentive to remove caps because the ATCs don't often know if they will be funded. Pres. Brems answered that there are limits on the number of students they can accept, but that is because of campus capacity. The budget is not differentiated between funding for adults and funding for high school students. He mentioned that the budget requests are always a balancing act on serving more people in the areas that are in the most demand.

Sen. Stephenson will meet with Pres. Brems to discuss why the funding for the charter school now housed at the DATC is different than other district schools.

Co-Chair Grover asked specifically what completion means and if dropouts are included in the calculations. Pres. Brems answered that the student completed the competencies defined in the program and sufficient to receive an entry-level employment position. He indicated that dropouts are not included. Sometimes students leave because they have secured employment, they try to get those students to complete. Co-Chair Grover also asked if they try to increase capacity hoping that students will fill those vacancies. Pres. Brems answered that before capacity is increased they determine that there is increased demand for that program. Co-Chair Grover indicated why campus capacity should be increased if there is a slight decline in enrollment. Pres. Brems answered that the enrollment declines are based on recovery from the recession and they are quite confident that ATC enrollment will increase.

Rep. McIff stated that there is a wealth of information about the earning capacity for students who complete UCAT training. He felt that the students and parents are not motivated to pursue this option. Pres. Brems indicated that parents want their children to do their very best and to go to a university. We need to help parents realized that there are skills that their children could attain.

Then if they wanted to pursue more education, that is great; but this would definitely give them more choice.

Pres. Brems discussed the completion, placement, and licensure rates obtained for FY 2012 as well as the increases in these statistics for FY 2013. He stated that the continual decline in secondary enrollment is a concern. He discussed the success of the Custom Fit program.

Co-Chair Grover asked how the hours of training are calculated. Pres. Brems indicated that a membership hour is one hour.

**b. Bridgerland ATC (BATC)** Dr. Richard Maughn, BATC President, thanked the committee for support. He discussed enrollment trends from 1987 to FY 2013. He reported on the number of certificates awarded. He discussed completion, placement and licensure rates. He mentioned that they have not had any programs up for review. He reported that because of recent appropriations, the wait time for the machining program had gone from 18 months to 10 months. He discussed the robotics, composites, and information technology programs. He reported on partnership with Weber State University (WSU) on the practical nursing and registered nursing programs.

**c. Davis ATC (DATC)** Michael Bouwhuis, DATC President, thanked the committee for the recent funding increases. He discussed completion, placement, licensure rates, and enrollment trends. He stated that they would like to increase offerings in automation technology, business technology, digital media, manufacturing, and composite materials technology. He stated that they used some of the funding for a counselor, new information technology and business technology faculty. He explained the national partnerships which allow them to have new equipment each year. He showed the remodeling of their facility. He discussed partnerships with ATK, Futura Industries, Lifetime Products and Kelloggs.

**d. Dixie ATC (DXATC)** Kelle Stephens, DXATC President, thanked committee members for additional funding for several programs. She explained the process of manufacturing polyacetal thermal plastic which is used in spinning DNA. She reported on the success of the CNC machining program. She discussed their new CNA program and the partnership with Dixie State University (DSU), who also have a CNA program, but that it is the first part of an RN program. She discussed the new emergency medical services programs: EMR, EMT and advanced EMT. She discussed reallocation including which programs which were canceled and new programs.

Sen. Valentine asked if DXATC has a paramedic program. Pres. Stephens answered that they do not, but they work in conjunction with the paramedic program at DSU.

She discussed the targeted program in office management and how they have worked to create specialty tracks to improve the performance measurements in that program. She discussed the increase in headcount and membership hours.

Rep. Edwards asked when students receive a certificate, do they find employment in that geographic area. Pres. Stephens answered that some stay in the areas and some move out. Many of their diesel students moved to North Dakota. They are trying to work with high school counselors, parents, and grandparents to change the misconception and encourage them to get a certificate and go on to a four-year school.

**e. Mountainland ATC (MATC)** Clay Christensen, MATC President, mentioned the 25-year history of the MATC. He explained the three-county service region and the demographics of their students. He reported on the successful cooperation with secondary schools in their region. He reported on the enrollment growth, the total membership hours and total student headcount. He gave updates on completion, placement, and licensure rates. He reported on certificates, occupational upgrades, cost per membership hours, and average enrolled hours. He discussed working specifically with Klune, Flowserve, Iasis, Boeing, IM Flash technologies. He stated that they have industry partnerships in the diesel mechanics and general contractors. He discussed the partnerships with Utah Valley University (UVU) and WSU. They used increased funding to reallocate programs; they discontinued four programs, restructured programs and started new programs. He reported that most of their students do find employment and stay in the area.

Co-Chair Urquhart is somewhat disappointed because he wanted to have a more coordinated approach to have CTEs programs be placed with ATCs. He had heard that there was a great deal of duplication between Mountainlands and Nebo. He asked if Pres. Christensen thought this was a problem.

Pres. Christensen replied that they did have some initial concerns when Nebo School District developed their Advanced Learning Center. This center focuses on distance education, AP courses, and concurrent enrollment. There is some duplication but the secondary membership in the Spanish Fork campus has increased. They value the partnership they have with the school districts.

**f. Ogden/Weber ATC (OWATC)** Collette Mercier, OWATC President, thanked the committee for the additional funding and support. She gave an update on the utilization of the FY 2014 funding. She discussed adding a non-destructive testing and inspection component to their composites program. She discussed working with several companies to develop this component. They enhanced their Information Technology program by adding a new lab. They saw a great need for testing and certification from the American Welding Society and acquired equipment including a new robotic welder. The funding allowed them to open a new Veteran's service center. They have had more Veterans enroll in six months than they did in an entire year. They are tracking the success and completion of these Veterans. They shifted funding in industrial automation for programmable logic controller training. After an extensive review by local employers, they revamped the business technology program. She discussed their plans towards the 2020 initiative. They offered private scholarships to students who had withdrawn

encouraging them to come back and finish their certificates. She discussed the community impact of the return on investment. They identify the entry-level wage and calculated how much the student is going to be making; and what that provides in our community, as well as the five percent income tax return to the state.

**g. Southwest ATC (SWATC)** Dana Miller, SWATC President, discussed the future building for SWATC. He gave FY 2013 information regarding student membership hours, companies served, adult student headcount, secondary student headcount, and employee training. They had a decrease in membership hours. The administrative team, program directors, employers and board of directors completed an extensive analysis and made some fundamental changes to increase enrollment. They should increase their certificate outputs by more than 100 percent. They are up 31 percent on their secondary students. He reported on placement, completion and licensure. He identified programs that were closed, revised and that they have started nine new programs. He mentioned the partnership with MSC Aerospace. He reported that they graduated their 1,000<sup>th</sup> truck-driving student this year. They were able to put some resources towards distance education and hired a student-success counselor. Pres. Miller thanked the committee for their support.

**h. Tooele ATC (TATC)** Scott Snelson, TATC President, expressed appreciation to the committee for their continued support and their new facilities. He discussed membership hours, enrollment history, completion, placement, and licensure rates. He reported on the Custom Fit programs. He discussed new programs and program expansion. He discussed improving infrastructure in student retention, completion and placement as well as finance and human resources and institutional development and marketing. He reported that they were awarded as the best design for a higher education institution in the Mountain states.

**i. Uintah Basin ATC (UBATC)** Dave Woolstenhulme, UBATC President, thanked the committee for their generosity. He discussed the certificates earned, membership hours, student head count, and Custom Fit programs. He discussed the current growth at the UBATC. He reported that the collaboration with school district has increased high school enrollment by 22 percent. He reported on the licensure, placement and completion rates. He explained the certificate programs that are offered. He discussed the reallocation of funding including which programs have been discontinued or revamped. He reported on the partnership with USU in sharing space and building pathways for students. He discussed the company partnerships.

**MOTION:** Rep. Edwards moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Grover adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m.